

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2903

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6667

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR DEAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, CB

SUBJECT: WHERE ARE CAMBODIA'S GOLD RESERVES?

CAMBODIA-B NO. 55

1. WHEN I SAW KEUKY LIM ON APRIL 17 I ASKED HIM WHETHER HE KNEW WHERE THE GKR HAD STORED THE COUNTRY'S GOLD RESERVES WHICH AMOUNTED TO 69 MILLION DOLLARS AT CURRENT MARKET VALUE. HE REPLIED THAT UNTIL RECENTLY THESE GOLD RESERVES HAD BEEN KEPT IN THE VAULTS OF THE NATIONAL BANGK IN PHNOM PENH. HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY WERE STILL THERE AND REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE NEWS STORIES THAT CAMBODIA AND VIETNAMESE GOLD WAS ALLEGEDLY TO BE FLOWN OUT OF SAIGON TO SWITZERLAND.

2. I AM REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT IN THE EVENT THAT THE QUESTION OF CAMBODIA'S GOLD RESERVES SHOULD EVER BECOME AN ISSUE IN THE FUTURE. IN THIS CONNECTION

I NOTE THAT THE GOVERNOR OF THE NATIONAL BANK WAS CHANGED IN LATE FEBURARY, AND THAT THE MOST RECENT INCUMBENT OF THE JOB WAS CONSIDERED ONE OF "LON NOL'S MEN."
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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